

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

The paragraph beginning at page 15, line 13 as follows:

Further primary bond regions **72, 74** are preferably formed between end portions **76** of the cover sheet **42** and the chassis, on opposite ends of the opening **16** formed by the chassis. The additional primary bond locations **72, 74**, which are formed along the end edge and lateral of the edges of the backsheet respectively, maintain a firm attachment of the absorbent element **40** to the chassis **4** while at the same time allowing a hinging effect during the expansion of the absorbent material, which is explained below. It should be understood that other primary bonds can be applied in a laterally extending direction, or in other various patterns as desired, including for example various curvilinear, checked and/or grid patterns.